

# ST. ANNE'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

## TIPPERARY



# PROSPECTUS

## 2026-2027

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Facing the future with confidence, while preserving the best of the past.





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## Principal's welcome

Welcome to St. Anne's Secondary School. St. Anne's is a Catholic voluntary secondary school for girls, established by the Sisters of Mercy, over one hundred and forty years ago on Rosanna Road, Tipperary Town. The school is now under the patronage of CEIST. While a great deal has changed since the school was established, the strong caring ethos, excellent academic standards and emphasis on extra-curricular involvement continues to permeate daily life here in St. Anne's. We want your daughter to achieve her potential and be the very best that she can be, both personally and academically. We aim to achieve this by providing a caring and safe environment that encourages and motivates each student to achieve.



Our dedicated teaching staff work hard to create a positive and engaging learning environment for all. Students are provided with a wide choice of subjects and the school has a strong tradition in facilitating extra-curricular activities including those across the arts, drama, music, and sport. A comprehensive programme is in place to ease the transition from primary school to St. Anne's. This helps our new students look forward to the great adventure, establishing themselves as integrated happy individuals with a sense of their own worth.

We invite parents/guardians to join us as partners in the education of their daughters. Together we will work to ensure that the girls entrusted to our care will grow to achieve their full potential. We understand the trust that parents/guardians place in us when enrolling their daughter here, and we believe that working in partnership with parents helps to work towards the collective hopes and ambitions that we share with you for your daughter.

This prospectus provides information to prospective students and their parents/guardians and will assist you in your choice of second level school. St. Anne's provides students with a caring and supportive environment that will empower and enable them to be the very best that they can be, in everything that they do. On behalf our patron CEIST, our Board of Management and the staff of St. Anne's, I wish to extend a warm welcome to you and invite you to contact the school if you wish to discuss any matters relating to your daughter's enrolment.

*Jeanne Dowling*

Jeanne Dowling  
Principal

## Mission Statement

The management and teaching staff of St. Anne's Secondary School, in co-operation with parents, are committed to the provision of a broadly-based education to the girls of the region and to achieving a balance between the academic, social, cultural, spiritual and physical components of that education, within the tradition established by the Mercy Sisters and continued by CEIST.

## Ethos of St. Anne's

St. Anne's is a Voluntary Catholic Secondary School for girls. It was founded as a Mercy Secondary School and as such supports the religious and educational philosophy of its founder Catherine McAuley. St. Anne's now operates under the Trusteeship of CEIST (Catholic Education an Irish School Trust). CEIST advises and supports the school and as a CEIST school St. Anne's is guided by the following core values:

1. Promoting Spiritual and Human Development
2. Commitment to excellence and continually improving the Quality of Teaching and Learning
3. Showing Respect for every person
4. Creating a sense of Community with a special welcome for those most in need
5. Being Just and Responsible in our Relationships.

While St. Anne's Secondary School is rooted in the ethos of the Mercy sisters, it warmly welcomes applications from students of other faiths. We offer each student the opportunity to develop her abilities and talents and so reach her full potential in a caring and happy environment. While the school is firmly rooted in tradition, successive principals and staff have ensured that the curriculum has kept pace with modern educational thinking.







## School Curriculum

St. Anne's encourages the pursuit of excellence in academic study both for its intrinsic value and as a preparation for life after secondary school. The school enjoys a deserved reputation for outstanding academic results and has a plan for continuous improvement and development to ensure that the education provided continues to meet the ever-changing demands of the twenty first century. St. Anne's has an excellent teaching staff who set the highest standards for behaviour and intellectual development. The curriculum is kept as wide as possible for as long as possible, ensuring that each student has the opportunity to identify her strengths and interests. As per Department of Education policy, Junior Cycle English, Irish and Maths are offered at both higher and ordinary level. All other subjects at Junior Cycle are taken at a common level. At Leaving Certificate, subjects are offered at both higher and ordinary levels.

## Junior Cycle Subjects

### Core Subjects

Irish  
English  
Maths  
Geography  
History  
Science  
French or German  
or Spanish\*

*\*Students choose French/  
German/Spanish having  
sampled all in September &  
October.*

### Optional Subjects

Business Studies  
Home Economics  
Music  
Visual Art

*Students choose 2 of these subjects at  
the end of 1st year*

### Wellbeing

CSPE  
SPHE  
PE  
Wellbeing  
Digital Literacy

*All students study these subjects*

### Other Areas of Learning

*Students are encouraged to get involved  
in areas of school life that are outside of  
the classroom*





## Senior Cycle

### Leaving Certificate Subjects

St. Anne's enjoys a deserved reputation for outstanding academic results and well over ninety per cent of our students proceed to further education, entering a wide range of professions and occupations. Students take seven subjects for Leaving Certificate examination.

#### Core Subjects

Irish  
English  
Maths

#### Option Subjects (choose 4)

*Accounting*  
*Agricultural Science*  
*Art*  
*Biology*  
*Business*  
*Chemistry*  
*French*  
*Geography*  
*German*  
*History*  
*Home Economics*  
*Music*  
*Physical Education*  
*Physics*

Students also have classes in Physical Education (non-examination), Religious Education, Guidance Counselling, Computer Studies and Enterprise Education as part of the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP).



## Leaving Certificate Applied

The Leaving Certificate Applied programme is a two-year Leaving Certificate programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. The programme sets out to recognise the talents of all students and to provide opportunities for developing personal responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge, and helps students apply what they learn to the real world. The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called sessions. Achievement is credited in each session. Courses are offered in three main areas: Vocational Preparation; General Education; and Vocational Education. Assessment takes place on the completion of modules, and there is also a final examination in each of the following areas:

- English and Communication
- Two vocational specialisms
- Mathematical Applications
- Language
- Social Education

Students who successfully complete the programme are awarded a Leaving Certificate from the Department of Education and Science. The certificate is awarded at three levels: Pass; Merit; and Distinction.

**([www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie))**

**For further information about the Leaving Certificate Applied programme please contact school management.**

## Transition Year

St. Anne's has a long established and very successful optional Transition Year Programme. Students are prepared academically and personally for Leaving Certificate and also experience the world of employment with three weeks work placement. Other core features of the programme include computer studies, driving lessons, the 'An Gaisce' Presidents Award, Debating and numerous opportunities to enter competitions such as the BT Young Scientist, SciFest, Art Competitions, Young Social Innovators, Student Enterprise Awards, Young Environmentalist and Junk Kouture.

## Special Class - Draíocht

We are delighted to have opened our new Special Class for students with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at St. Anne's in September 2025. This marks a significant and exciting step forward in our commitment to inclusion and creating a nurturing, supportive environment for all learners. At St. Anne's, we believe that every child deserves to feel valued, understood, and empowered to reach their full potential. The new class offers a tailored, student-centred approach, ensuring that each child receives the care, support, and opportunities they need to thrive as part of our community.







## Extra-Curricular Activities

St. Anne's places a very strong emphasis on providing a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Participation in such activities is not only hugely enjoyable for students but also promotes a feeling of school community. We provide an extensive range of activities. The list of activities currently on offer are below however, this list varies to meet student interests.

- Agri-Aware competition
- Art Competitions
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Camogie
- Charity events
- Choir
- Creative writing
- Debating
- Equestrian - Show Jumping and Hunter Trials
- Essay competitions
- First Aid
- Gaelic football
- Gaisce Presidents Awards
- Golf
- Green schools
- Hockey
- Junk Kouture
- Maths competitions/maths club
- Orchestra
- Photography
- Public speaking
- Science projects
- Retreats
- School Musical
- Student Council
- Student Enterprise Awards
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Tours within Ireland and abroad
- Visits to theatre, historical sites and places of cultural interest.
- Young Social Innovators
- Young Scientist



## Student Services and Facilities

### Pastoral Care

Each girl is a valued member of the school community and the welfare, dignity and happiness of all our students is at the heart of school policy. The Principal and Deputy Principal are always on hand to meet the needs of students, to listen to them and to offer support. Each year group is assigned a Year Tutor who oversees the welfare, academic progress and social development of students.

### Learning Support/Additional Education Needs (AEN)

The AEN Team provides a variety of educational support to students ranging from short-term interventions to longer, ongoing learning support. Its focus is on reassurance, the building of strengths and the improvement of outcomes for students in groups or in one-to-one settings. Students who qualify for learning support, resource hours or SNA support will receive these supports in St. Anne's. The AEN department also offers support to students for whom English is their second language.

### Student Council

The Student Council provides students with a voice and works in partnership with school management, staff and parents. Members of the Student Council are elected from each class group each year. The council meets regularly to debate issues that concern the student body. Training is provided for council members.

### Supervised Study

Supervised study is available for students from Monday to Friday after school for two hours. Saturday study is also available.

### Career Guidance and Counselling

The students of St. Anne's benefit from the services of a specialist Career Guidance Counsellor who advises students on subject choice and supports them in making informed decisions regarding career options. Information evenings are provided for parents to help with career choice and subject choice. Study skills seminars are offered to both Junior and Senior students.

### Support for new students

Fifth year students are trained as first year mentors and help our first years to settle in. Each first year meets their mentor in the May before they begin, and their mentor accompanies them during their first day in school. Fun activities are organised by the mentors during the year to help first years to broaden their friendship circle.





## Assessment, Reporting and Feedback

In addition to class assessments in St. Anne's we operate a system of regular formal assessment. St. Anne's operates a system of regular assessment, reporting and feedback for all students. Formal reports are sent home to parents/guardians three times per year, and a parent/teacher meeting is facilitated each year.<sup>1</sup>

- Assessment takes the form of class tests, projects, oral/aural assessments, assignments, practical assessments, experiments, presentations, house exams, mock exams and state exams.
- Feedback is provided in the form of three written reports each year, one parent-teacher meeting and regular written/oral feedback to students on their classwork and homework.
- Regular assessment and feedback encourage students to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and develop a consistent work ethic.
- Students, parents/guardians and teachers can track a student's progress in each subject throughout the year.
- Students and teachers can evaluate progress and assess if a topic or area needs further work.

Students have the opportunity to get involved in many activities at lunchtime including chess club and board games. Many students also are involved in practice and rehearsals for sport and music during lunchtime.

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<sup>1</sup> The assessment and reporting schedule for Transition Year differs to the other year groups



## **ICT Equipment/Broadband**

At St. Anne's, we recognise the vital role that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays in modern education and in preparing students for a rapidly evolving digital world. Our aim is for all students to become ICT-literate, developing the skills to use technology effectively while also understanding its value and potential risks. Digital literacy is a key part of our Junior Cycle and Transition Year programmes, where students are guided in safe, responsible, and purposeful use of technology. Our fully equipped computer room, with 30 desktop computers, and a mobile trolley of 25 new laptops ensure that all students have access to high-quality digital resources. This year, we have introduced student-owned devices for 5th Year students to support the increasing project work demands of the Leaving Certificate curriculum. These devices are provided with a five-year warranty and repair service, ensuring continuity and reliability in students' learning.

## **Specialist Rooms**

St. Anne's is very well equipped in the practical area with three modern Science Laboratories along with specialist rooms for Art, Music, Computers and Home Economics.

## **Canteen and Tuck shop**

Both canteen and tuck shop facilities are available in St. Anne's. A wide selection of hot and cold food – sandwiches, hot meals, wraps, soup and salads can be ordered and are delivered to the school in time for lunch.

## **Lift**

The installation of a lift ensures that our school is accessible to all students.

## **Sports Facilities**

Our students benefit from a lively and varied Physical Education programme which takes place either in the school hall or outside on the basketball courts or green area. Students have access to the sports facilities in the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre for Basketball and Hockey, train for tennis in the adjacent Rosanna tennis courts, swimming in the Sean Treacy Memorial Swimming Pool and train for Football and Camogie in the Monastery pitch nearby.



## General Information

### School Uniform

The school uniform consists of:

**Green and Navy Pleated Skirt or Navy Trousers**  
**White Blouse (reversed collar)**  
**Navy Jumper with crest**  
**Flat Dark Shoes**

Students must wear their uniform each day and keep it neat and tidy. The school uniform is available at Julie's, Main St. Tipperary Town. St. Anne's also has a school tracksuit that is worn during Physical Education classes and when attending sporting and other events. This is supplied by O' Reilly Sports.

### School Day

The school day begins with assembly each morning at 8.45am. There is a 15 min break at 10.50am and lunch varies between 30 mins on two days and 1 hour on three days. All Junior students remain on the school premises during lunch. Senior students may go down town during lunch with parental permission.

### First Year Class Groups

It is school policy not to stream classes in first year. Classes are divided into equal mixed ability groups. After first year classes in Irish and Maths are divided in accordance with the levels taken by students, i.e., higher or ordinary level. Classes in other subjects remain mixed ability at Junior Cycle Level.

### Subject Choice

First years choose between French, German and Spanish, having sampled all three languages in September and October.

### Book Rental

In line with new Department of Education funding school books are provided under the free books scheme.

### Partnership with Parents

Parents/Guardians are invited to the school on a number of occasions each year and written reports on academic performance are sent home three times yearly. We encourage parents to take a positive interest in their daughter's homework and in all aspects of their daughter's life at school. We welcome contact from home and the principal/Deputy/Year Tutor are happy to discuss with parents any concerns they may have in relation to their daughter. Parents are welcome to become part of the Parents Council, which is an active, dynamic group that work to ensure the best possible education for the students.

# Enrolment Process for 2026/27 Academic Year

The application process begins with submission of a completed application form. This application form is available to download at [www.stannesschool.ie](http://www.stannesschool.ie) or on request by emailing **info@stannesschool.ie** or contacting the school by phone **(062)51747**. The decision dates for admission, each year, are published on the annual admission notice available on the school website (**www.stannesschool.ie**).

<b>1st October 2025</b>	<b>Open Evening in St. Anne's</b> St. Anne's will commence taking applications for students who wish to enrol in September 2026
21st November 2025	Closing date for enrolment applications for September 2026
28th November 2025	Applicants will be notified on the decision of their application
12th December 2025	Applicants required to confirm acceptance of a place
January 2026	St. Anne's will contact students and their parents/guardians with details and dates for induction



## Contact Details

Principal: Jeanne Dowling

Deputy Principal: Catherine O'Dwyer

## ST. ANNE'S SECONDARY SCHOOL TIPPERARY

Rosanna Road, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary. **E34 F210**

**Phone:** 062-51747

**Website:** [www.stannesschool.ie](http://www.stannesschool.ie)

**Facebook:** St. Anne's Secondary School

**e-mail:** [info@stannesschool.ie](mailto:info@stannesschool.ie)

**X (formerly Twitter):** @stannestipp

**Instagram:** stannestiptown